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AUG 27 2001  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800  
In the application of:  
Seres et al.

S.N.: 09/218308

Filed: 12/22/98

For: Protective Device for Printers

Box Fee  
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

A.U.: 2854

Examiner: Nguyen

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#17/Request  
Recons.

8-30-01

L. Spennell

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Glenn L. Webb

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**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Dear Sir:

The Applicant hereby requests that the outstanding Office Action be reconsidered in view of the following remarks

**Remarks**

Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 14 and 16 - 22 have been canceled. New claims 23 - 47 have been added. No new matter has been added.

**Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103**

Previously, claims 1-4, and 8 - 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over each of the patents to Frick and Otsubo.. The Office Action stated that:

"Each of the patents to Frick and Otsubo teaches a protective device which renders obvious the structure as broadly claimed. Frick teaches a protective device 7 having a hood 8 covering a document feed path opening, and an access opening 11 that allows the document 12 to be fed out as shown in Fig. 1. Otsubo teaches a protective device having a hood 1a which covers the document feed path opening and an access opening 7 for providing access to the document 5 which is just printed from a print device as shown in Figs. 1-7 and 9 of Otsubo. *Each of the patents to Frick and Otsubo fail to clearly teach the protective device airborne particles.* However one of ordinary skill in the art would have used the protective device which reduces noise of Frick or Otsubo (soundproof protective device) for protecting dispensing devices or printers from airborne particles or dust or environmental contamination. With respect to claims 3